

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) A The communication terminal device in a content distribution management system for circulating a content via a network, the content distribution management system including a distribution management device operable to perform copyright management regarding the content and payment management concerning usage of the content, and a communication exchange device operable to provide information regarding the circulation of the content, said communication terminal device comprising:

a content receiving unit operable to receive a content from another communication terminal device;

a purchase requesting unit operable to send purchase requesting information for requesting information for requesting purchase of the received content to the distribution management device;

a right information receiving unit operable to receive, from the distribution management device, right information for enabling usage of the content which is requested to be purchased, under a certain rule;

a search requesting unit operable to send information regarding a search to the communication exchange device, receive result information regarding a predetermined search from the communication exchange device, and to specify a content and a distributor of the content based on the received result information;

a distribution requesting unit operable to send, to the specified distributor, sending requesting information for requesting sending of the specified content; and

according to Claim 4, further comprising a redistributing unit operable to send the content received by the said content receiving unit to another communication terminal device.

6. (Currently Amended) The communication terminal device according to Claim-4 5, wherein the said distribution requesting unit specifies is operable to specify the communication terminal device itself that makes the request or another communication

terminal device as a destination of the specified content, and sends to send the sending requesting information to the specified device.

7. (Currently Amended) The communication terminal device according to Claim 4 5, wherein the said search requesting unit sends is operable to send a search condition to the communication exchange device, receives to receive a predetermined search list from the communication exchange device, and specifies to specify a content and a distributor of the content based on attribute information indicating a characteristic of the content that is attached to the received search list.

8. (Currently Amended) The communication terminal device according to Claim 7, wherein the said search requesting unit further weights is operable to weight the attribute information, compares to compare contents based on the attribute information, and specifies to specify a most weighted content and a distributor of the content.

9. (Currently Amended) The communication terminal device according to Claim 8, wherein the said search requesting unit specifies is operable to specify the most weighted content and the distributor of the content based on a data size of the content and a time which is required for distribution of the content.

10. (Currently Amended) The communication terminal device according to Claim 8, wherein the said search requesting unit specifies is operable to specify the most weighted content and the distributor of the content based on an image format or a data compression method of the content.

11. (Currently Amended) The communication terminal device according to Claim 5, 3 in the content distribution management system further comprising a communication exchange device that provides information regarding the circulation of the content, wherein the communication terminal device further includes:
— a search requesting unit operable to send information regarding a search to the communication exchange device, receive result information regarding a predetermined

~~search from the communication exchange device, and specify a content and a distributor of the content based on the received result information;~~

~~— a distribution requesting unit operable to send, to the specified distributor, sending requesting information for requesting sending of the specified content; and~~

~~— a content using unit operable to use the content which is requested to be purchased according to the right information received by the said right information receiving unit.~~

12. (Currently Amended) The communication terminal device according to Claim 11, wherein the said content using unit further ~~includes~~ comprises a usage request processing unit operable to send usage requesting information for requesting usage of the purchased content to the distribution management device and receive usage licensing information for licensing the usage of the purchased content from the distribution management device, and ~~uses~~ said content using unit is operable to use the content based on the received usage licensing information.

13. (Currently Amended) The communication terminal device according to Claim 12, wherein the usage requesting information is any one of or a combination of reproduction, moving, copying, printing and processing.

14. (Currently Amended) The communication terminal device according to Claim 3 5, wherein the said purchase requesting unit ~~adds~~ is operable to add information indicating an intermediary to information that is to be sent to the distribution management device, and sends to send the information.

15. (Currently Amended) The communication terminal device according to Claim 3 5, further comprising:

an advertising information memory unit operable to memorize advertising information; and

an advertising information sending unit operable to read out advertising information from the said advertising information memory unit, and to send the

advertising information to the distribution management device.

16. (Currently Amended) A distribution management device in a content distribution management system for circulating that circulates a content via a network, the content distribution management system including comprising a plurality of communication terminal devices that can exchangeoperable to exchange a content on the network,

wherein the said distribution management device includes comprising:
a memory unit operable to memorize information regarding copyright management of the content and information regarding payment management by associating relating the information with an individual content;
a right information sending unit operable to specify right information according to the information regarding the copyright management that is specified based on purchase requesting information for requesting purchase of a content, and to send the specified right information to a predetermined communication terminal device, when receiving the purchase requesting information is received from one of the communication terminal devices, and send the right information to a predetermined communication terminal device; and

a payment management processing unit operable to update the information regarding the copyright management and the information regarding the payment management based on the received purchase requesting information.

17. (Currently Amended) The distribution management device according to Claim 16, wherein the said payment management processing unit further makes is operable to make a history of information regarding the purchase of the content, and performs to perform payment processing for allocating a charge based on the information of the history.

18. (Currently Amended) The distribution management device according to Claim 16, wherein:

wherein the said memory unit further memorizes is operable memorize information indicating a communication terminal device by associating said device with

~~corresponding to~~ information indicating an intermediary; and

~~the said payment management processing unit further distinguishes is operable to distinguish whether or not the information indicating an intermediary is added or not to the purchase requesting information that is received from the communication terminal device, and when the information is added to the purchase requesting information, further performs said payment management processing unit is operable to perform payment processing concerning an intermediary fee allocation for the communication terminal device that is equivalent to the intermediary.~~

19. (Currently Amended) The distribution management device according to Claim 16, wherein ~~the said payment management processing unit, when the information regarding the copyright management is updated according to purchase of a content, further performs is operable to perform payment processing concerning collection of a management fee for the management for at least one of a the communication terminal device that provides the content corresponding to the update, a the communication terminal device that intermedates a the content, and the communication terminal device that purchases the content, when the information regarding copyright management is updated according to purchase of a content.~~

20. (Currently Amended) The distribution management device according to Claim 16, wherein:

~~wherein the said right information sending unit further decides is operable to decide whether or not usage of the content is possible or not based on usage requesting information for requesting usage of the content purchased from the communication terminal device and the information regarding the copyright management stored in the said memory unit, when receiving the usage requesting information is received, and~~

~~when it is decided said right information sending unit decides that the usage of the content is possible, said right information sending unit is operable to send sends usage licensing information for licensing the usage to the communication terminal device, and the said payment management processing unit further updates is operable to update the information regarding the copyright management based on the usage requesting~~

information, ~~when it is decided that the usage is possible.~~

21. (Currently Amended) The distribution management device according to Claim 16, further comprising an advertising information storage unit operable to receive advertising information from one of the communication terminal devices, and ~~store-to~~ ~~store~~ the advertising information and information indicating the one of the communication terminal devices by associating relating the information the advertising information and the information indicating the one of the communication terminal devices with each other, wherein:

~~wherein the said right information sending unit further reads is operable to read out the advertising information corresponding to the one of the communication terminal devices device from the said advertising information storage unit, when receiving the purchase requesting information or the usage requesting information of the content is received from another the other communication terminal device, and sends to send the advertising information as well as the right information to the other another communication terminal device; and~~

~~the said payment management processing unit further performs is operable to perform payment processing concerning collection of an advertising rate for the one of the communication terminal devices.~~

22-32. (Cancelled)

33. (New) A content usage method for a communication terminal device in a content distribution management system for circulating a content via a network,

wherein the content distribution management system includes a distribution management device operable to perform copyright management regarding the content and payment management concerning usage of the content, and a communication exchange device operable to provide information regarding the circulation of the content, and

wherein said content usage method comprises:

receiving a content from another communication terminal device;

sending purchase requesting information for requesting purchase of the received content to the distribution management device;

receiving, from the distribution management device, right information for enabling usage of the content which is requested to be purchased, under a certain rule;

sending information regarding a search to the communication exchange device, receiving result information regarding a predetermined search from the communication exchange device, and specifying a content and a distributor of the content based on the received result information;

sending, to the specified distributor, sending requesting information for requesting sending of the specified content; and

sending the content received in said receiving of the content to another communication terminal device.

34. (New) A distribution management method for a distribution management device in a content distribution management system for circulating a content via a network,

wherein the content distribution management system includes a plurality of communication terminal devices operable to exchange a content on the network,

wherein the distribution management device includes a memory unit operable to memorize information regarding copyright management of the content and information regarding payment management by associating the information with an individual content, and

wherein said distribution management method comprises;

specifying right information according to the information regarding copyright management that is specified based on purchase requesting information for requesting purchase of a content, and sending the right information to a predetermined communication terminal device, when the purchase requesting information is received from one of the communication terminal devices; and

updating the information regarding copyright management and the information regarding payment management based on the received purchase requesting information.

35. (New) A program for using a content in a communication terminal device in a content distribution management system for circulating the content via a network,
wherein the content distribution management system includes a distribution management device operable to perform copyright management regarding the content and payment management concerning usage of the content, and a communication exchange device operable to provide information regarding the circulation of the content, and

wherein said program causes a computer to execute:

receiving a content from another communication terminal device;

sending purchase requesting information for requesting purchase of the received content to the distribution management device;

receiving, from the distribution management device, right information for enabling usage of the content which is requested to be purchased, under a certain rule;

sending information regarding a search to the communication exchange device, receiving result information regarding a predetermined search from the communication exchange device, and specifying a content and a distributor of the content based on the received result information;

sending, to the specified distributor, sending requesting information for requesting sending of the specified content: and

sending the content received in said receiving of the content to another communication terminal device.

36. (New) A program for managing distribution of a content in a distribution management device in a content distribution management system for circulating the content via a network,

wherein the content distribution management system includes a plurality of communication terminal devices operable to exchange a content on the network,

wherein the distribution management device includes a memory unit operable to memorize information regarding copyright management of the content and information regarding payment management by associating the information with an individual

content, and

wherein said program causes a computer to execute:

specifying right information according to the information regarding copyright management that is specified based on purchase requesting information for requesting purchase of a content, and sending the right information to a predetermined communication terminal device, when the purchase requesting information is received from one of the communication terminal devices; and

updating the information regarding copyright management and the information regarding payment management based on the received purchase requesting information.

37. (New) A computer-readable recording medium on which a program is recorded for using a content in a communication terminal device in a content distribution management system for circulating the content via a network,

wherein the content distribution management system includes a distribution management device operable to perform copyright management regarding the content and payment management concerning usage of the content, and a communication exchange device that provides information regarding the circulation of the content, and

wherein said program comprises:

receiving a content from another communication terminal device;

sending purchase requesting information for requesting purchase of the received content to the distribution management device;

receiving, from the distribution management device, right information for enabling usage of the content which is requested to be purchased, under a certain rule;

sending information regarding a search to the communication exchange device, receiving result information regarding a predetermined search from the communication exchange device, and specifying a content and a distributor of the content based on the received result information;

sending, to the specified distributor, sending requesting information for requesting sending of the specified content: and

sending the content received in said receiving of the content to another communication terminal device.

38. (New) A computer-readable recording medium on which a program is recorded for managing distribution of a content in a distribution management device in a content distribution management system for circulating the content via a network,

wherein the content distribution management system includes a plurality of communication terminal devices that can exchange a content on the network,

wherein the distribution management device includes a memory unit operable to memorize information regarding copyright management of the content and information regarding payment management by associating the information with an individual content, and

wherein said program comprises:

specifying right information according to the information regarding copyright management that is specified based on purchase requesting information for requesting purchase of a content, and sending the right information to a predetermined communication terminal device, when the purchase requesting information is received from one of the communication terminal devices; and

updating the information regarding copyright management and the information regarding payment management based on the received purchase requesting information.